

Military Family Relief Fund Advisory Committee
4141 N. Third Street - Phoenix AZ 85012
May 16, 2008 – 10 a.m.
Arizona State Veteran Home

M I N U T E S

Committee Members Present

Marcos Andrade
Joe Bibich
Carol Culbertson
George Cushing
Jay Gordon
Charles McCarty
Kathy Pearce
Joan Sisco
Danny Thompson, Designee

Arizona Department of Veterans' Services

R. Gregg Maxon, Director
Gabe Forsberg, Plans & Development Manager
Diane D'Angelo, Outreach Coordinator

Other Attendees

Paul Clark
Jeff Dollins, Assistant Attorney General

Absent

John Aldecoa
Margy Bons
Randy Meyer
Jody Reidenhour

Call to Order

Quorum was established and Committee Chair Joe Bibich called the meeting to order at 10 a.m. Committee Chair Bibich led the Pledge of Allegiance and facilitated attendee introductions.

Review & Approval of March 24 Meeting Minutes

Committee Chair Bibich called for review and approval of the March 24 meeting minutes. Minutes were reviewed and approved by the committee.

Donation Fund & Outreach Update

- Diane D'Angelo reported that as of May 16, 2008 \$57,685 has been donated from 202 donors. Some people are sending in multiple checks in small amounts.
- The brochure is in its final design stages and should be ready for distribution to Committee members at the next meeting. PRFect Media was able to secure a bid for 50,000 brochures at \$4500.
- Designee Danny Thompson reported that he will be giving a MFRF PowerPoint presentation for the Governor's Office on Faith and Community Initiatives. Committee members expressed interest in viewing the presentation; Ms. D'Angelo will distribute via email.

Fundraising Discussion

Committee Chair Bibich suggested that Committee members begin to coordinate fundraising efforts and that a tracking form be created and used for this purpose. He added that a Kingman TV station would like for he and General Maxon to make a promotional appearance. General Maxon agreed to appear.

Committee Chair Bibich also stated that he has secured a donation promise from the Marine Corps League.

Secretary Cushing urged members to organize their efforts. Committee Chair Bibich said he would cover Mohave County; Vice Chair Meyer, West Valley; Secretary Cushing, NW Valley.

Committee Chair Bibich would like to make a presentation to the Arizona Veterans' Service Advisory Commission to enlist their support. Committee Member Culbertson and Secretary George Cushing advised him of the next Unified Arizona Veterans meeting and agreed to present there.

Committee Member Sisco suggested that appeals be placed in the monthly VSO newsletters.

Committee Member Gordon talked about meeting with corporations, including the following:

Raytheon
General Dynamics
Intel
Honeywell
Motorola
Local sports teams

Ms. D'Angelo agreed to put together talking points for committee use and assist members with corporate contacts. Members will send Committee Chair Bibich (cc Ms. D'Angelo) corporations they would like to visit and Ms. D'Angelo will provide a contact name and number.

A discussion ensued about current ADVS donors. Committee Member Sisco urged against using any names from the veterans' registry, stating it would anger them. Assistant Attorney General Dollins agreed to check on the confidentiality of MVD veterans/freedom license plate holders

Paul Clark of the Laurus Group spoke to the committee about his organization. They would like to host an event and may work with the Thunderbirds to co-host.

MFRF PowerPoint

Designee Chaplain Danny Thompson previewed the presentation he will be giving at the Governor's "Serving our Military Returnees" event on May 20.

Call to the Public

Mr. Clark stated that he thought the Military Family Relief Fund is an outstanding idea and is pleased to support it.

Adjournment

Committee Chair Bibich adjourned the meeting at 12:10 p.m. The next meeting date will be June 17 at 10:00 am.